

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001418/26
to the Commission
Dariusz Joński (PPE)
(8 April 2026)**

Subject: Safeguarding the competitiveness of the EU hosiery and underwear sector

In connection with the implementation of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/734, I would like to raise serious concerns expressed by EU manufacturers of hosiery regarding the impact of high anti-dumping duties on imports of polyamide yarn from China.

According to industry representatives, these duties distort competition within the EU single market. While essential raw materials are subject to high tariffs, finished products and certain semi-finished goods remain relatively price-competitive. This weakens the position of EU producers, both vis-à-vis Chinese manufacturers and European competitors in non-EU countries. As a result, the sector risks job losses, reduced investment and long-term decline.

At the same time, the rapid growth of direct-to-consumer sales via non-EU e-commerce platforms such as SHEIN, TEMU and AliExpress raises additional concerns. These platforms benefit from the preferential treatment of low-value consignments, which complicates the enforcement of EU rules on product safety, traceability and labelling, further distorting competition.

In the light of this:

1. Has the Commission assessed the impact of these duties on EU manufacturers of finished products?
2. Does the Commission plan measures to address the competitive advantages of non-EU e-commerce platforms?
3. Is the Commission considering adjustments to ensure a level playing field within the single market?

Submitted: 8.4.2026

**Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the European Commission
(1 July 2026)**

In the context of the anti-dumping proceeding, when deciding whether to impose definitive measures, the Commission will weigh the various interests, including those of EU producers and users.

Moreover, in case the downstream industry faces pressure from unfairly priced imports, it can also submit a complaint and request an anti-dumping investigation.

In order for the investigation to be initiated, the complaint should contain sufficient evidence of dumping, injury and the causal link between the two.

As part of the European Product Act, the Commission is considering whether changes to the Market Surveillance Regulation ⁽¹⁾ are appropriate.

The Commission has also coordinated customs and market surveillance authorities to target imports from major online platforms under a Priority Control Area ⁽²⁾, improving border enforcement and gathering data to support tools such as the Digital Services Act ⁽³⁾. Joint enforcement actions are planned to reinforce cross-border compliance, including for products sold via e-commerce channels.

The Commission is taking steps to ensure the level playing field between EU economic operators and major e-commerce platforms in the Single Market by supporting and directing national authorities to enforce EU product safety and digital rules strictly ⁽⁴⁾.

Through this digital strategy, the EU further reinforces the principle that all businesses selling into the EU face equivalent obligations and effective controls.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products and amending Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations (EC) No 765/2008 and (EU) No 305/2011; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1020/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ The Priority Control Area aims at improving border enforcement and gathering data to support tools such as the Digital Services Act. Joint enforcement actions among Member States further reinforce cross-border compliance, including for products sold via e-commerce channels; https://taxation-customs.ec.europa.eu/news/large-scale-eu-customs-control-action-shows-most-third-country-e-commerce-goods-do-not-follow-2026-01-07_en.

⁽³⁾ Regulation (EU) 2022/2065 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 on a Single Market for Digital Services and amending Directive 2000/31/EC (Digital Services Act); <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2065/oj/eng>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/e-commerce-communication-comprehensive-eu-toolbox-safe-and-sustainable-e-commerce>.

Under the broader customs reform, the EU abolished the EUR 150 duty exemption and will apply a temporary EUR 3 customs duty to low value e-commerce items from 1 July 2026 ⁽⁵⁾. From 1 July 2028 online platforms or sellers will be responsible for financial and non-financial liabilities applied by customs.

⁽⁵⁾ Council Regulation (EU) 2026/382 of 11 February 2026 amending Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 as regards the elimination of the threshold-based customs duty relief; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2026/382>.